

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 4-21 are pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to set forth that the multimedia information comprises at least one of audio information, still image information, and video information. Claim 20 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to correct the improper dependency.

Section 112 Rejections

Claim 20 was rejected as having insufficient antecedent bases for "the method" limitation in the claim. Claim 20 has been amended to depend on Claim 11.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-12, 14-16, 18, and 21 were rejected as being unpatentable over Best (US 2005/0034147) in view of Mora (US 2004/162882).

As acknowledged in the office action, Best does not show that the performed action in response to receiving a presence indicator is updating an IM application. Also, Best does not show determining a status of the user, wherein the interpreted information is used for updating the IM application to set forth said status of the user.

Mora is cited as showing updating the status of a user for an IM application. However, Mora does not do this using multimedia information. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the definition from claim 2 of multimedia information as including at least one of audio, a still image and video. Claim 1 recites extracting information from this multimedia, and using that extracted information to update the status of a user. For example, a phone could be recognized in video, and used to indicate the user is on the phone.

Mora determines status using the PIM (Personal Information Manager) on the user's computer [see par. 0020]. For example, if the user's calendar has an appointment, with a location outside the office, there is an indication of "away." [see, e.g., par. 0025]. Nowhere does Mora describe using the multimedia information to determine status beyond mere presence. Cited Fig. 3 shows either a PIM event (e.g., appointment), a Presence Event (presence, not status) or User Input (the user typing in status). Accordingly, even if one were to combine Mora

with Best, there would still be no use of the multimedia data to determine status. Rather, status (beyond mere presence) would be determined in the combination from the PIM or user input.

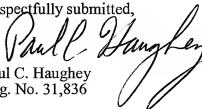
Claim 7 was rejected as being unpatentable over Best in view of Mora and in further view of Mastrianni (US 2002/0114519). Claim 8, 13 and 19 were rejected as being unpatentable over Best in view of Mora and in further view of Toyama (US 2006/0193494). Claim 17 were rejected as being unpatentable over Best in view of Mora and in further view of Harris (US 7,202,798). Claim 20 was rejected as being unpatentable over Best in view of Mora and in further view of Johnson (US 5,349,662). None of these additional references supply the elements missing from the combination of Best and Mora. In particular, none of these references show extracting information from the multimedia data, and using that extracted information to update the status of a user. Accordingly, these claims are believed allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims 1 and 11 as discussed above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner does not believe that this amendment puts the application in condition for allowance, the undersigned requests a telephone conference prior to issuance of a final office action. The undersigned can be reached at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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